

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 411
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108
(617) 727-8352
(800) 462-OCPF

MARY F. McTIGUE
DIRECTOR

July 13, 1992
AO-92-14

Warren Tolman
The Tolman Committee
P.O. Box 425
Watertown, MA 02272-0425

Re: Travel Expenses to a National Convention

Dear Mr. Tolman:

This letter is in response to your May 19, 1992, request for an advisory opinion regarding the legality of having your committee pay for your travel and related expenses in attending the Democratic National Convention.

M.G.L. c.55, s.6, provides that as a political committee organized in support of your candidacy for state representative, your political committee may "expend money . . . for the enhancement of [its candidates'] political future." Such expenditures, however, are subject to other restrictions contained in M.G.L. c.55 and certain regulations. The applicable regulation, 970 C.M.R. 2.06, states in pertinent part, that the following expenditures are prohibited:

2. Expenditures for travel expenses, room and board expenses, and delegate fees, for any delegate to a state or national political party convention . . . unless such expenditures are for:

- a. the candidate on whose behalf the political committee making the expenditure was organized . . . 970 C.M.R. 2.06(6)(b)(2)(a) (emphasis added).

Clearly, the expenditures outlined in your request are within the exception to the general prohibition contained in the regulations. Accordingly, such expenditures are reasonable, provided that it is your committee which makes the noted expenditures.

It is, therefore, the opinion of this Office that your

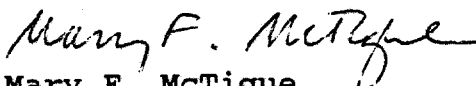
Warren Tolman
July 13, 1992
Page 2

committee may pay for reasonable travel, lodging, and other expenses, including delegate fees, relating to your attendance at the Democratic National Convention.

This opinion has been rendered solely on the basis of representations made in your letter and solely in the context of M.G.L. c.55.

Please do not hesitate to contact this Office should you have additional questions about this or any other campaign finance matter.

Very truly yours,


Mary F. McTigue
Director